

**SCRIPTURE AND
KEY SERMON NOTES:**

Now Daniel so distinguished himself among the administrators and the satraps by his exceptional qualities that the king planned to set him over the whole kingdom. At this, the administrators and the satraps tried to find grounds for charges against Daniel in his conduct of government affairs, but they were unable to do so. They could find no corruption in him, because he was trustworthy and neither corrupt nor negligent. Daniel 6:3-4 NIV

Now when Daniel learned that the decree had been published, he went home to his upstairs room where the windows opened toward Jerusalem. Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God, just as he had done before. Daniel 6:10 NIV

Do not despise these small beginnings, for the LORD rejoices to see the work begin. ... Zechariah 4:10 NLT

START PRAYING:

Father, thank You for Your Word and the examples of people like Daniel, whose lives encourage us to become more like Your Son day after day. Guide and support the next small steps we take. In the name of Jesus we pray, amen.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

START TALKING:

What does your daily routine look like? Are there things you do so often, you don't remember doing them?

Which of your systems are working well? Which need some work?

START THINKING:

Read Daniel 6:10. Which system did Daniel turn to? Which system do you think you would've turned to?

Can you think of other Bible heroes who thrived because of their habits or systems?

Why do you think God cares about our small choices?

As a group list as many instances of when God gives people instruction as you can. Discuss the nature of each instruction – are they “habit forming” instructions or are they “do it once” instructions?

START SHARING:

Read Zechariah 4:10. How will you start small this week?

Pastor Jeff talked about cues and actions. What's a cue and action you'd like to put into place? “I will do ____ after I ____.”

Review the main points from last week's message. Who do you want to become? Can you answer with clear “who statements?” If not, try to come up with some statements in your group.

Based on who you want to become, what's one habit you want to start?

What part of this series has impacted you most and why? How are you going to continue living out that lesson in the days ahead?

START DOING:

From last week: Write it out. Write out 3-5 sentences that describe who you want to be. Build a habit of looking or thinking about that list on a regular basis this year! Become that person!

Discuss as a group how you can support each other as you put new habits and systems into place.